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THE MĀNDŪKYOPANISHAD. With Gaudapāda's Kārikās and the Bhāshya of S'ankara.

Translated into English by *Manilal N. Dvivedi*. Bombay: Tookaram Tatyā. 1894. Pp. 188. Price, one and one-half rupee.

Mr. Dvivedi is a well known and acute Hindu writer on philosophy. The present translation of the *Māndūkya* with its several commentaries, was undertaken by him at the request of Col. H. S. Olcott and in behalf of the Bombay Theosophical Publication Fund, generously donated by Mr. Iyer of the Madras High Court. So far as the translator knows the Bhāshya of S'ankara and the Kārikās of Gaudapāda are not yet rendered into English, and he is satisfied that the *Māndūkya* itself will be much better understood in the light of those commentaries,—a belief to which the student of the subject will no doubt yield his assent. Mr. Dvivedi has prefixed to the translation an excellent historical and expository introduction of fifty pages, giving a brief *résumé* of the doctrines of the six well-known schools of Indian philosophy with their various tendencies, but chiefly expounding the Advaita system, or philosophy of the absolute. Mr. Dvivedi is a zealous champion of the Advaita<sup>1</sup> system and knows how to connect its formal teachings with all the grave questions of modern society. With regard to the idea of publishing in English translations the records of the acute ancient Indian schools of thought, all scholars will be of the same opinion with Mr. Dvivedi that "it will be proved ere long that the generous gentleman who conceived the idea of accomplishing this work has rendered valuable service to the cause of literature and philosophy in general."

We have also just received a little pamphlet by this author on the Purānas, being a lecture delivered at the International Congress of Orientalists held in Stockholm in 1889. (Leyden: E. J. Brill.) μ.

ALLGEMEINE PHYSIOLOGIE. Ein Grundriss der Lehre vom Leben. By *Dr. Max Verworn*, Privatdocent der Physiologie an der medicinischen Facultät der Universität Jena. Jena: G. Fischer. 1895. Pages, 584. Price, 15 M.

"The elementary constituent of *all* living substance and the substratum of *all* elementary phenomena of life is the cell. If, therefore, physiology finds in the explanation of vital phenomena its fundamental task, it is plain that *general* physiology can only be a cellular physiology." Such is the thesis which Professor Verworn has placed at the foundation of his exhaustive treatise of *General Physiology*. A cursory glance at its contents will give us the best idea of its import and scope. First, we have a discussion of the aims and methods of physiological research, including a statement of the problem of physiology, the history of its development from ancient times, and a description of modern methods and theories. We shall only stop here to note (1) that Verworn's solution of the problem of body and soul, objectivity and subjectivity, consists in the simple assumption of a *psyche*, of which objects are mere groups of sensations; and (2) that there is no one exclusive

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<sup>1</sup>Advaita (literally "non-duality") is what we call *Monism*.

physiological method, but that *all* methods are admissible, provided they lead to the *one* physiological goal—the elucidation of life. The second chapter treats of the chemical and physical composition of living substance,—giving the elements of its morphology,—and of life and death; the third of the elementary phenomena of life, metabolism, cellular development, and the vital forms of energy; the fourth of the present and past conditions of life, biogenesis, and the history of death; the fifth of cellular irritation; the sixth and last of the physical machinery of life, cellular mechanics, and the economy of cellular states. The book is a portly one, richly illustrated (268 cuts), and contains full and adequate descriptions of the newest laboratory appliances.

As will be seen, the plan of the work leaves nothing to be desired, in everything that goes to constitute a historical and systematic presentation of the rudiments of general physiology. Much of the material is gathered from scattered and mostly inaccessible sources, and all is subjected to examination under new synthetic points of view. Stress is laid upon the importance of the comparative method as employed by Johannes Müller, to whose memory the work is dedicated. As the task here undertaken has never been attempted before on so extensive a scale and as an organic whole, the author asks his colleagues' forbearance and solicits from them rigorous and outspoken criticism. That criticism, however, is not for us. Professor Verworn's work supplies a profound want in the general literature of this subject, and will be of valuable assistance, by its easy style, not only to students and professors of physiology, but also to the cultured reader and scientist generally, be he philosopher or physician, botanist, zoölogist, or what not. It remains to state that Professor Verworn contributed an article to *The Monist*, somewhat over a year ago (April, 1894), on "Modern Physiology," which he has incorporated in the present work, and to which the reader may be referred for a succinct statement of his views.

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A HISTORY OF MATHEMATICS. By *Florian Cajori, Ph. D.* New York and London : Macmillan & Co. 1895. Pages, 422. Price, \$3.50.

There is no subject with which history as a rule is so little associated, nor any which in some of its parts derives so much profit from it, as mathematics. The history, for example, of the origin and growth of the calculus of variations is imperatively necessary to a profound apprehension of its principles. The chief function, however, of the history of mathematics, as a constituent of instruction, or collateral reading, is the stimulus which flows from the human and romantic features that adhere in such variety and number to the development of the science, as also the heuristic glimpses which it affords of the way in which knowledge generally is constituted. Intellectually nothing could be more refreshing than the anecdotes which De Morgan, say, recounts in his mathematical biographies of the wit and idiosyncrasies of the giants of mathematical thought, and physically, no doubt, many a lean-faced pangeometric youth will be spurred on to wholesome athletic efforts by